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TENNESSEE WILDLIFE FEDERATION

E-Newsletter

May 2006

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**Available at your County
Clerk's office beginning
May 15, 2006**

Greetings!

With the close of spring, we wanted to touch base with you and thank you for your interest in TWF and our work. In this e-newsletter we want to update you on some of our work in our core areas of focus: advocacy, stewardship and education.

We hope you enjoy!
Mike

TWF Launches Travel Web Page



Support Wildlife & Conservation While You Travel!

Going Some Where? Use the TWF Travel Web-Site to book your travel plans. A percentage of your purchase goes directly back to TWF sponsored programs.

You will save money and continue your support of wildlife and conservation in Tennessee. Click the photo to the right to learn more!

**TWF Adds Program Director for Scholastic Clay Target
Program & Hunters for the Hungry
Programs see exciting growth!**



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Programs see exciting growth!

In 2005, Mr. Chad Whittenburg, a recent fish and wildlife graduate from Tennessee Technological University, hit the ground running at the Sctp State Championship Shoot and hasn't looked back. The Tennessee Sctp program is the largest in the United States, growing to 1,500 participants for the 2006 season.



This growth has demanded that Tennessee go to a Regional Championship format across the state to allow teams to compete to shoot in this year's Sctp State Championship, June 24 and 25.

Look to the TWF website for updates on Sctp events. Also check out TWF "Talk Forum" for most up to date information.

In addition to these duties, Chad also took on the responsibility of growing Hunters for the Hungry. Through the hard work of Chad and dozens of volunteers, Hunters for the Hungry grew by more than 30% during the 2005-2006 deer season.

TWF's Great Outdoors University Gets Kids Outdoors

Martha Lyle Ford Joins TWF Staff

These days kids are more likely to be in front of a computer or a television, but not if TWF's Martha Lyle Ford has anything to say about it. Mrs. Ford is the new program director for the newly create TWF Great Outdoors University – a program designed to get kids into the wilds of West Tennessee.



Through a generous contribution from the Memphis Daily News, TWF is planning on impacting several thousand Memphis and Shelby County youth by opening the world of the outdoors to them in a way they have never experienced.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, contact the TWF offices at 615-353-1133 or e-mail Martha Lyle at mlford@tnwf.org.

[Read more...](#)

TWF Heads Downtown



Several legislative and policy measures in spotlight.

Governor's Land Forum

2005 also saw the launch of Governor Bredesen's first "Land Forum" which brought together dozens of private and public agency

stakeholders to discuss land conservation needs for Tennessee. TWF Board member Daniel Carter participated by representing TWF, and the Federation continues to work with the administration to discuss future large scale land conservation mechanisms that recognize the needs of local communities while looking to the future of wildlife and wildlife habitat in our state.

TWF Report on Tennessee Coal Mining

One of the most significant impacts to Tennessee's water and wildlife habitat is coal mining. And while we all rely on coal to produce the electricity we use on a daily basis, most understand that coal mining is a high impact activity.

To address a recent surge in permit applications for coal mining in Tennessee, the Federation spent 18 months researching this issue and released a report titled, "Coal Mining in Tennessee". One result of this report was realized when Governor Bredesen sent a letter to the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) in Washington, D.C. to make the request that OSM rework their programmatic environmental impact statement pertaining to coal mining. Additionally, TWF aided other organizations in ensuring that a "stop work" order for illegal mining practices passed the General Assembly.

Look to future issues of TOD for more information on this topic or goto www.tnwf.org to download a copy of the coal mining report.

Right to Hunt and Fish Amendment Clears Senate - prepares to move in House

Legislatively 2005 was relatively quiet, until TWF began to move the Constitutional Amendment establishing a right to hunt and fish in Tennessee. By working with attorneys from TWRA, the Tennessee Attorney General's office, Senator Doug Jackson and others, the Federation was successful in drafting language that passed the Senate unanimously.

At the writing of this article, TWF has successfully placed language on the House version of the resolution and was successful in getting the resolution moved out of the House Environment and Conservation Committee by unanimous vote. We hope to see passage by the entire House soon. For more information, go to <http://www.tnwf.org> and take a look at the new "Right to Hunt and Fish" page.

[Read on...](#)



The Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Mission is to champion the conservation, sound management and enjoyment of Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources for current and future generations through stewardship, advocacy and education.

We are an organization that works in Tennessee for Tennesseans and the wonderful wildlife and natural resources that live here.

Michael Butler
Tennessee Wildlife Federation

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